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Dear Ms Cooper

Re Caravan site provision in Basildon

I assume you are responsible for Gypsies and Travellers in the new government

You will be aware that some 300 Irish Travellers are threatened with eviction from their site in Crays Hill. You will also recall that Mr Prescott offered land at Pitsea for an alternative site.

I have assisted the Travellers in putting in a planning application for a caravan site at Pitsea but this has been refused by Basildon Council. We are appealing against this decision and are faced with finding some £6,000 (six thousand pounds) for a planning expert and a barrister for the eventual Enquiry.

In view of the interest shown earlier by your Department in the Pitsea site we wonder if you would finance this appeal. The Crays Hill Travellers Housing Association have an account through which the money could be channelled.

Yours sincerely

Dr Donald Kenrick
Vice President Gypsy Council